THE HUMBLE PETITION

Of the Lords & Commons assembled in Parliament unto his Majesty (with the Reasons moving them, to advise his Majesty) to decline his intended Journey into *Ireland*:

Sent to *Yorke* by the Earle of *Stamford*, Sir *John Culpepper* Knight, Chancellour of the Exchequer, and *Anthony Hungerford* Esquire.

Who presented the same to his Majesty at *Yorke*, on Monday last, being the 18 day of *April*, 1642.

And ordered to be printed and published by the Commons House of Parliament.

Die Veneris 22 *of April.*

H. Elsyng Cler. Parl. D. Com.

LONDON,
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JUNE 7, 1918

May it pleaſe your Majeſtie,

YOur Majeſties moſt loyall, and faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament have duly conſidered the Meſſage received from your Majeſty, concerning your purpoſe of going into *Ireland* in your own perſon to proſecute the warre there with the bodies of your *Engliſh* Subjects levied, tranſported, and maintained at their charge, which you are pleaſed to propound to us, not as a matter wherein your Majeſty deſires the advice of your Parliament, but as already firmely reſolved on, and forthwith to be put in execution, by granting out Commiſſions for the levying of two thouſand foot, and two hundred Horſe for a Guard for your perſon when you ſhall come into that Kingdome, wherein we cannot chuſe but withall reverence and humility to your Majeſty, obſerve that you have declined your great Councell the Parliament, and varied from the uſuall courſe of your Royall Predeceſſors, that a buſineſſe of ſo great importance concerning the peace and ſafety of all your Subjects, and wherein they have a ſpeciall intereſt by your Majeſties promiſe, and by thoſe great ſums which

they have disburſed, and for which they ſtand ingaged ſhould be concluded and undertaken without their advice, whereupon we hold it our duty to declare, that if at this time your Majeſty ſhall goe into *Ireland*, you will very much endanger the ſafety of your Royall Perſon and Kingdoms, and of all other States profeſſing the Proteſtant Religion in Chriſtendome, and make way to that cruell, and bloudy Deſigne of the Papiſts every where to root out and deſtroy the Reformed Religion as the *Iriſh* Papiſts have in a great part already effected in that Kingdome and in all likelyhood would quickly be attempted in other places, if the conſideration of the ſtrength and union of the two Nations of *England* and *Scotland*, did not much hinder, and diſcourage the execution of any ſuch deſigne, and that we may manifeſt to your Majeſtie, the danger and miſery, which ſuch a journey and enterprize would procure we preſent to your Majeſty the Reaſons of this our humble opinion, and advice.

1 YOur Royall perſon will be ſubject not onely to the caſualty of warre, but to ſecret practiſes, and conſpiracies eſpecially your Majeſty continuing your profeſsion to mayntaine the Proteſtant Religion in that Kingdome which the Papiſts are generally bound by their vow to extirpate.

2 It will exceedingly encourage the Rebels who doe generally profeſſe, and declare that your Majeſty doth favour and allow their proceedings, and this inſurrection was undertaken by the warrant of your Commiſsion, and it will make good their expectation of great advantage by your Majeſties preſence at

at this time of ſo much diſtraction in this Kingdome, whereby they may hope we ſhall be diſabled to ſupply the warre there, eſpecially there appearing leſſe neceſſitie of your Majeſties Journey at this time, by reaſon of the manifold ſucceſſes which God hath given againſt them.

3. It will much hinder and impaire the meanes, whereby this warre is to bee ſupported, and will encreaſe the charge of it, and in both theſe reſpects, make it more inſupportable to your Subjects: and this we can confidently affirme, becauſe many of the Adventurers who have already ſubſcribed, doe upon the knowledge of your Majeſties Intentions, declare their reſolutions, not to pay in their money, and others very willing to have ſubſcribed, doe now profeſſe the contrary.

4. Your Majeſties abſence muſt neceſſarily very much interrupt the proceedings of Parliament, and deprive your Subjects of the benefit of thoſe further Acts of Grace, and Juſtice which we ſhall humbly expect from your Majeſty for the eſtabliſhing of perfect union, and mutuall confidence betwixt your Majeſty and your People, and procuring and confirming the proſperity and happineſſe of both.

5. It will exceedingly encreaſe the jealouſies and feares of your people, and render the doubts of your Subjects more probable, of ſome force intended by ſome evill counſells neere your Majeſty, in oppoſition to the Parliament, and favour of the malignant party of the Kingdome.

6. It will bereave your Parliament of that advantage, whereby they were induced to undertake this

warre upon your Majesties promise, that it should be managed by their advice, which cannot be done, if your Majestie contrary to their Counsell shall undertake to order and governe it in your owne Person.

Upon which and divers other reasons wee have resolved by the full and concurring agreement of both Houses, that we cannot with the dutie which belongs to us, consent to any Levyes, or raising of Souldiours to be made by your Majesty, for this your intended expedition into *Ireland*, or to the payment of any Army or Souldiers there, but such as shall bee imployed and governed according to our advice and direction, and that if such Levyes shall be made by any Commission of your Majesty, not agreed to by both Houses of Parliament, wee shall be forced to interpret the same to be raysed to the terrour of your people, and disturbance of the publicke peace, and hold our selves bound by the Lawes of the Kingdome, to apply the authority of Parliament to suppresse the same.

And we doe further most humbly declare, that if your Majesty shall by ill counsell, be perswaded to goe contrary to this advice of your Parliament (which we hope your Majesty will not, We doe not in that case hold our selves bound to submit to any Commissioners, which your Majesty shall choose, but doe resolve to preserve and governe the Kingdome by the counsell and advice of Parliament for your Majestie and your Posteritie according to Allegiance, and the Law of the Land.

Wherefore we most humbly pray, and advise your Majesty, to desist from this your intended passage

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into *Ireland*, and from all preparation of men and Armes tending thereunto, and to leave the managing of that warre to your Parliament, according to your Majesties promise made unto us and your Royall Commission granted under your great Seale of *England*, by advise of both Houses, in prosecution whereof, by Gods blessing we have made a prosperous entrance by many defeats of the Rebels, whereby they are much weakned and dis-heartened, and have no probable meanes of subsistence, if our proceedings shall not be interrupted by this interposition of your Majesties Journey, but that we may hope upon good grounds, that within a short time, without hazard of your Majesties person, and so much dangerous confusion to your Kingdomes, which must needs ensue if you should proceed in this resolution: We shall be enabled fully to vindicate your Majesties right and authority in that Kingdome, and punish those horrible and outragious cruelties which have bin committed in the murthering, and spoyling so many of your Subjects, and bring that Realme to such a Condition as may be much for the advantage of your Majesty, and this Crown, the honour of your government and contentment of your people, for the better, and more speedy effecting whereof we doe againe renew our humble desires of your returne to your Parliament. And that you will please to reject all Counsels, and apprehensions which may any way derogate from that faithfulnesse, and Allegiance which in truth and sincerity we have alwayes borne, and professed to your Majesty, and shall ever make good to the uttermost with our lives and fortunes.

Die

Die veneris 22. *of April* 1642.

It is this day Ordered by the Commons Houſe of Parliament, that this Petition ſhall bee forth-with publiſhed in Print.

H. Elſyng. Cler. Parl. D. Com.